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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/344,411	06/26/1999	CAROL CORPUS	CORPP101US	9031

7590 03/05/2003

DEBORAH LIU
AMIN & TUROCY, LLP
24TH FLOOR, NATIONAL CITY CENTER
1900 EAST 9TH STREET
CLEVELAND, OH 44114

EXAMINER

CHEVALIER, ALICIA ANN

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

1772

DATE MAILED: 03/05/2003

28

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/344,411

Applicant(s)

CORPUS ET AL.

Examiner

Alicia Chevalier

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 20 December 2002 and 11 February 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1,2,5,7-15 and 17-39 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 19-37 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1,2,5,7-15,17,18,38 and 39 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other:

RESPONSE TO AMENDMENT

WITHDRAWN REJECTIONS

1. The 35 U.S.C. §102 rejection of claims 1, 2, 5, 6, 7, 9, 17, 18, 38, and 39 as anticipated by Griffin et al. (4,696,706) of record in paper #18, page 4, paragraph #12 has been withdrawn due to Applicant's amendment in paper #26.

REJECTIONS REPEATED

2. The 35 U.S.C. §103 rejection of claims 8, 10, 11, and 12 over Griffin et al. (4,696,706) in view of Cleef et al. (2,248,317) is repeated for reasons previously of record in paper #18, pages 4-5, paragraph #13.

Griffin et al. discloses all the limitations of the instant claimed invention except for the leaves having an active agent and peeling means.

Cleef discloses a sticker packet comprising a plurality or set of superposed stickers. The stickers are adapted when stripped apart or separated from one another to be stuck to any selected surface of object and, depending upon their shape, serve as articles of utility or ornamentation. The stickers are thin and flexible and are secured together in packet form by means of facings of permanently tacky pressure-sensitive adhesive (col. 2, lines 2-10). The stickers are made of base material of paper or like material. The stickers are provided with a thin coating of shellac, varnish, lacquer, or ethyl cellulose in order to prevent the permanently tacky pressure-sensitive adhesive from sticking too tightly (col. 2, lines 19-32). As shown in figure 1, the stickers are provided with integral outwardly projecting tabs (col. 3, lines 4-6).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to add a thin coating of shellac, etc as taught by Cleef to the logic symbol of Griffin because the coating would help prevent the stacked symbols from sticking to each other. It also would have been obvious to add a tab as taught by Cleef to the logic symbol of Griffin because it would help facilitate separation between the stacked symbols.

3. The 35 U.S.C. §103 rejection of claims 13-15 over Griffin et al. (4,696,706) in view of Cleef et al. (2,248,317) and further in view of Bowskill et al. (4,795,669) is repeated for reasons previously of record in paper #18, pages 5-6, paragraph #14.

Griffin et al. and Cleef disclose all the limitations of the instant claimed invention except for the tabs comprising adhesive.

Bowskill discloses a disposable protective shield for a handle or illumination device comprising a stack of shields, each shield comprises a relatively-thin flexible sheet made from any suitable material such as a plastic type of "crepe paper". The sheet further has a top surface or side and an underside and a band of adhesive on the underside of each sheet around the perimeter thereof. (Col. 4, lines 18-32) The shield may also be provided with a flap (tab). The bottom of the flap may be coated entirely with a suitable adhesive. (Col. 4, lines 57-68)

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to add an adhesive to the tab of Cleef as taught by Bowskill because it would prevent the tab from prematurely coming up. Also, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have adhesive on both sides of the tab, since it has been held that rearranging parts of an invention involves only routine skill in the art. *In re Japikse*, 86 USPQ 70.

NEW REJECTIONS

4. **The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office action.**

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

5. Claims 1, 2, 5, 6, 7, 9, 17, 18, 38, and 39 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Griffin et al. (4,696,706).

Griffin et al. discloses a stack of adhesive symbols comprising a plurality of process logic symbols (leaves) and a dispenser board (base leaf). Each logic symbol comprises a non-adhesive top surface and bottom surface with a layer of adhesive. The adhesive (removable adhesive) on the logic symbol is strong enough to secure any symbol to an object and yet let the logic symbol be removed without damage to the object. The dispenser board comprises a non-adhesive top surface and a bottom surface with a layer of adhesive. The adhesive (mounting adhesive) on the dispenser board is use for mounting the board on a wall or any smooth surface. A protective layer is added to the dispenser board adhesive to prevent the board from being prematurely or accidentally attached to an object. From the figures it can be seen that the dispenser board has a thickness greater then the logic symbols. See column 4, line 17 through col. 5, line 64 and the figures.

Griffin also discloses that it may be necessary to use rather large, firm logic symbols on a blackboard for educational purpose or for a large exhibit purpose (col. 6, lines 45-47).

Furthermore, the exact size of the logic symbols is deemed to be a cause effective variable with regard to intended surface the symbols is to be placed. It would have been obvious

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to one having ordinary skill in the art to have determined the optimum value of a cause effective variable such as the size of the logic symbols through routine experimentation in the absence of a showing of criticality in the claimed combined thickness. *In re Boesch*, 205 USPQ 215 (CCPA 1980), *In re Woodruff*, 16 USPQ2d 1934, 1936 (Fed. Cir. 1990). One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to change the size of the logic symbol as suggested by Griffin depending on its specific intended use.

Also, the phrase "for conformal application thereon to the surface, ..." in claim 17, is an intended use. It has been held that a recitation with respect to the manner in which a claimed product is intended to be employed does not differentiate the claimed product from a prior art product satisfying the claimed structural limitations. *Ex parte Masham*, 2 USPQ2d 1647 (1987).

ANSWERS TO APPLICANT'S ARGUMENTS

6. Applicant's arguments filed in paper #26 regarding the rejections of record have been considered but are moot due to the new grounds of rejections.

Conclusion


7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Alicia Chevalier whose telephone number is (703) 305-1139. The Examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Thursday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. The Examiner can also be reached on alternate Fridays.

If attempts to reach the Examiner are unsuccessful, the Examiner's supervisor, Harold Pyon can be reached by dialing (703) 308-4251. The fax phone number for the organization official non-final papers is (703) 872-9310. The fax number for after final papers is (703) 872-9311.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose phone number is (703) 308-0661.

ac
3/3/03




HAROLD PYON
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
1772

3/3/03